

COLLABORATIONS

 The DO SCHOOL Quarterly Newsletter

4th Edition, Vol. 2

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Challenge Match Campaign Results

The Do School raised a total of **\$86,015** on its 2025 **Double Down Challenge Match** fundraising campaign. We are so humbled by all of the generous gifts received. **Thank you!** ☺

New Beginnings

In the celebration of new beginnings, we must not forget reflection—a grateful look back on The Do Schools' outstanding progress and achievements of the past year! 2025 marked the fifth year of collaborative dedication to a mission of stability for men and women seeking workforce training in the construction industry and increased economic value for themselves and their families.

[Happy New Year continued on Page 5]

Community Grant Recipient!

The Do School (TDS) recently received a \$55,000 grant from **The Winston-Salem Foundation** to supplement the salary of the site supervisor, a position which oversees instruction and management of the hands-on component of the TDS training program.

During each training cycle, the cohort will spend an average of 450 hours onsite learning basic skills and best practices associated with construction trades. Occasionally, there are opportunities for trainees to work alongside licensed trade professionals in plumbing, HVAC and electrical. Training time, however, is spent primarily in the live learning lab under the instruction of the site supervisor.

The support provided by The Winston-Salem Foundation continues to radiate as brightly today as it did more than five years ago when we began this journey and dared to make a difference here in Winston-Salem.

Since its founding in 1919, the Winston-Salem Foundation (WSF) has partnered with generous community members to build a better future for residents of Forsyth County and beyond. WSF is a nonprofit community foundation, the oldest foundation in North Carolina, and it consistently ranks among the largest community foundations in the United States. WSF is comprised of hundreds of charitable funds created by individuals, families, and organizations who want to improve the quality of life for those around them. In partnership, WSF drives meaningful impact by investing in community priorities, providing scholarships and charitable grants, and raising awareness of community issues. More at wsfoundation.org. ☺

Message from the Executive Director



A Tribute

Willette Mosby-Reynolds, The Do School Operations Manager, has informed our team of her imminent retirement. It is extremely difficult to detail the responsibilities that Willette has assumed since committing to this vision—even before its official nonprofit certification in November 2020.

No matter where she might have been, geographically, on the planet, The Do School, is among her priorities—second only to her beautiful family (and its [ED's Message continued on Page 5]

Community Collaborations

Here are some recent activities resulting in fun, yet impactful ways that demonstrate the ripple effects of collaborations.

- ❑ As a new member of the Home Builders Association of Winston-Salem, TDS participated for the first time as a contributor to the Brown Bag Raffle. This fundraiser takes place during the Annual Chicken Stew, which is sponsored by the Remodelers Council. TDS provided two baskets for the 10th annual event, which was held on November 11th.



The two baskets donated featured gift cards from local specialty shops: "Life is Sweet" basket: Bobby Boy Bakershop, Cheesecakes by Alex, Copain, and Louie & Honey. And "Look Good. Do Good" basket: Wood & Thread and Fancy Groceries, along with TDS hoodie and t-shirt.



- ❑ As a result of an onsite tour, and in response to an expressed need, The Do School received the gift of two heaters to keep the cold at bay while the cohort works through the winter months to renovate LL5. **Special Thanks to Craig Richardson and Bob Sipprell** for seeing the need and answering the call to assist in a very tangible way.

"The Do School Model is such a neat and impactful endeavor. We were so impressed with what you are doing that we have decided to donate two Jet heaters so your crew can work comfortably through the colder months."

- ❑ Several levels of collaboration came together to provide the opportunity for some of our cohorts, staff and board members to attend the Dec. 21st **Panthers vs Buccaneers NFL Game** in Charlotte. Tickets to the game were provided by a very special donor and the cost of food was covered by another. Transportation to and from the game by chartered bus was partially funded by generous donations from the community. It was a beautiful day, a very enjoyable outing, and the Panthers won! ☺



Save the Date

Please hold Saturday, **March 28, 2026**, as the date for the **Graduation Recognition Celebration** for Cohort #6. This program will again be held at **Piedmont Federal Bank**, 201 S. Stratford Road, Winston-Salem, 27103. ☺

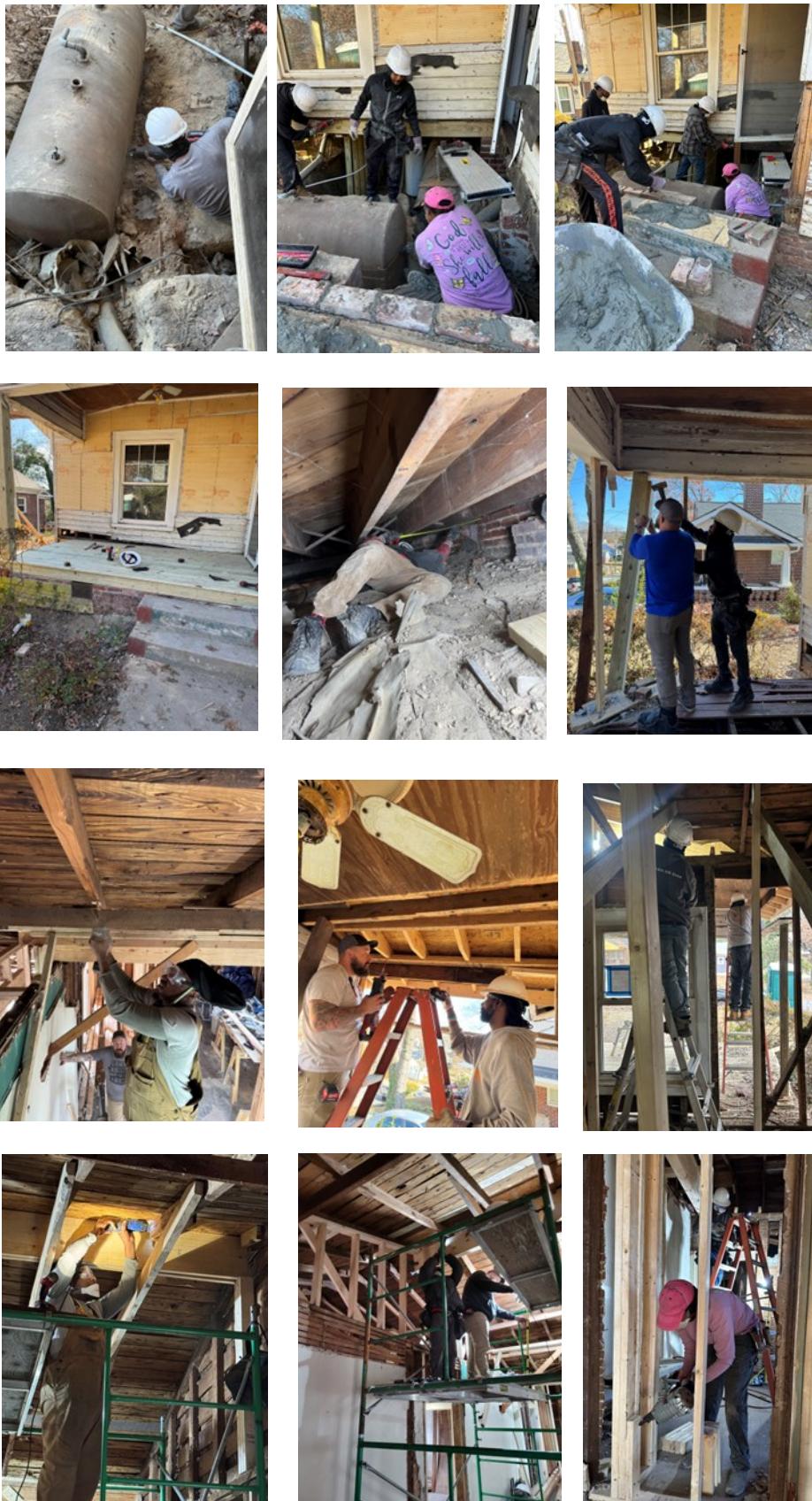
New Face

We would like to welcome:

- **Asheena Love**, HR Generalist at **Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County**, who has joined and is now serving as a Board Director. Asheena's passion is supporting people and organizations. In her current role she has already volunteered time with the past two cohorts at TDS. ☺

Learning Lab #5 Updates

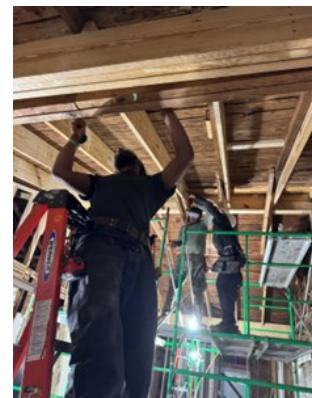
The transformation of 416 E 27th Street is in full drive. Since demolition, the hands-on live learning experience has included the removal of underground fuel oil tanks and the replacement of lots of rotten wood. Framing has touched every room of the property and has provided lots of learning experiences and teachable moments. The crew continues to learn and build on what they have learned as they apply those skills throughout the renovation project. The cohort has worked from the front porch to what will become the rear deck, from beneath the house to the roof, from the floor, to the walls, to the cathedral ceiling.



Photos continue on the next page.

Learning Lab #5 Photos

More action photos of the training and renovation project taking place at the live learning lab. Cohort #6 is a very hard working crew: Jawaaduldin Anderson, Tevin Braxton, Sincere Hines, and Vanessa Watkins. We invite you to follow our progress through these quarterly newsletters and online via our website: thedo-school.org/news-makers.



New Beginnings (continued from Page 1)

None of the achievements were possible without the partnerships of the foundations, businesses, organizations and individual investors in uplifting the people and properties of our city. We are extremely thankful for every act of kindness through donations, counsel, volunteerism, public relations, and cheers from the sidelines.

The new year has already shown the promise of more great achievements and the collaborative momentum of the past five years. We look forward to celebrating successes and officially recognizing our partners as we close out an awesome fiscal year. *NOTE:* The annual Year-in-Review event will be held in April. LET US CONTINUE THE WORK! ☺

ED's Message (continued from Page 1)

extensions). Frankly, the Board and staff of TDS look to her project management and outstanding administrative skills as "the glue" that has directed day-to-day tasks, communications with staff, trainees, constituents and the community, as well as proactively delivering accountability and a professional "face" to our organization (and never forgetting those 4:00 AM text reminders to staff).

Many, many thanks to you, Willette, for working tirelessly for the benefit of our community, and it goes without saying that your absence from the team will be deeply felt. All the best to you in your new chapter (especially with the grandchildren), ... but don't disappear from our sight!!!!

With Enormous Gratitude,

The Do School Board of Directors, Executive Director & Staff ☺

